

Message Text

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73

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-02

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15

USIA-12 COA-02 EB-11 OIC-04 ACDA-19 AEC-11 AGR-20

CG-00 COME-00 DOTE-00 FMC-04 INT-08 JUSE-00 NSF-04

OMB-01 TRSE-00 SCI-06 CEQ-02 EPA-04 RSR-01 /187 W
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P R 312227 Z MAY 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8222

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 2050

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR UN CI

SUBJ: LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE ARRANGEMENTS

1. CHILEAN AMB RAUL BAZAN DAVILA, WHO IS RECENTLY ARRIVED CHILEAN CONSUL- GENERAL IN NY AND LEGAL ADVISER TO THE CHILEAN UN MISSION, CALLED AT THIS INITIATIVE ON MISOFF AFTERNOON 31 MAY TO DISCUSS VARIOUS LOS MATTERS. HE BEGAN BY SAYING THAT HE IS A CAREER FSO, A TRADITIONAL FRIEND OF THE US, HE HAD KNOWN AMBS CABOT, BRIGGS AND GORDON PERSONALLY IN BRAZIL IN 19 56-62 WHEN HE WAS CHILEAN AMB IN RIO, HE WAS MOST RECENTLY LEGAL ADVISER TO THE CHILEAN FOREIGN MINISTRY; AND HE WOULD BE FOLLOWING LOS MATTERS, AS HE HAD DURING THE MARCH SEABEDS COMITE SESSION. AMB BAZAN SAID THAT IN A DISCUSSION HE HAD THIS WEEK WITH ECUADORIAN PERMREP BENITES, WHO IS THE UNOPPOSED CANDIDATE FOR GA PRESIDENT, BENITES HAD INSISTED THAT THE INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE MUST NOT IN ANY WAY DELAY THE WORK OF THE 28 TH GA WHICH HE, AS PRESIDENT, INTENDS TO CONCLUDE ON 15 DEC. BENITES SAID THE INAGURAL
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SESSION OF THE LOS CONFERENCE COULD TAKE PLACE AFTER THE CONCLUSION OF THE GA OR IN JAN IF NECESSARY; FOUR DAYS WOULD SUFFICE. BAZAN HAD POINTED TO THE LANGUAGE OF THE 1972 GA LOS RES, CALLING ON THE SYG " TO CONVENE

THE FIRST SESSION OF THE THIRD UN CONF ON THE LAW OF THE SEA AT NY FOR A PERIOD OF APPROXIMATELY TWO WEEKS IN NOV/ DEC 1973"; BENITES HAD NOT RESPONDED.

2. STRESSING HE WAS SPEAKING PERSONALLY, MISOFF SAID AMB BENITES' CONCERN COULD BE APPRECIATED BUT THERE WAS NO REASON WHY THE LOS INAUGURAL SESSION SHOULD "IMPEDE" THE GA'S WORK; THE FORMER COULD BE HELD DURING A TWO-WEEK RECESS OF THE FIRST COMITE IN LATE NOV AND USE THE TIME WHICH, AT EARLIER GA SESSIONS, THE FIRST COMITE HAD SPENT CONSIDERING THE SEABEDS COMITE REPORT AND LOS QUESTIONS GENERALLY, BAZAN SAID HE HAD MADE A SIMILAR POINT TO BENITES BUT THE LATTER HAD ASSERTED THAT THIS WOULD BE PRECLUDED BY HEAVINESS OF THE FIRST COMITE AGENDA AT THE FORTHCOMING ASSEMBLY AND HAD MENTIONED "IMPORTANT DISARMAMENT QUESTIONS, KOREA AND THE LIKE". BAZAN ALSO REPORTED THAT BENITES IS ASKING UNDER SYG MORSE TO LOOK INTO THE POSSIBILITY OF HOLDING THE INAUGURAL LOS SESSION AFTER 15 DEC.

3. BAZAN ASKED WHETHER IT WAS TRUE, AS HE HAD HEARD, THAT THE US WAS SUPPORTING THE NOTION OF A SEABEDS COMITE SESSION EARLY IN 1974. MISOFF REPLIED THE MISSION KNEW NOTHING OF SUCH A PROPOSAL COMING FROM THE US AND, SPEAKING WITHOUT INSTRUCTIONS, SAID WE WOULD BE CONCERNED AT THE EFFECT AN ADDITIONAL COMITE SESSION MIGHT HAVE ON DEALING PROGRESS AT THE JULY/ AUG SEABEDS COMITE SESSION AND THE POSSIBILITY IT MIGHT INTERFERE WITH THE LOS CONFERENCE SCHEDULE. THERE WAS ALSO THE LIKELIHOOD GOVTS WOULD NEED THE PERIOD IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING THE FIRST SUBSTANTIVE SESSION OF THE LOS CONF (SANTIAGO) FOR REGIONAL AND OTHER CONSULTATIONS.

4. BAZAN SAID THAT ZEGERS HAD EARLIER BEEN DUE TO BE MOVED TO MEXICO CITY BUT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY HAD DECIDED TO KEEP HIM IN SANTIAGO DURING THE CONFERENCE.

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5. MISOFF UNDERTOOK TO CONFIRM WITH BAZAN CORRECTNESS OF FOREGOING RESPONSES TO BAZAN'S QUESTIONS.
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